

CITY OF ALAMEDA

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: John A. Russo
City Manager

Date: June 21, 2011

Re: Adopt a Resolution Approving the Memorandum of Understanding
Among the City of Alameda, the Humane Society of Alameda, and the
Friends of the Alameda Animal Shelter Regarding the Future Operation
of the Shelter

BACKGROUND

On May 31, 2011, the City Council received a presentation on the City's FY11-12 budget. As part of that budget presentation, staff recommended that the City contract out the operations of the Alameda Animal Shelter with a neighboring community in order to save approximately \$734,000 annually.

DISCUSSION

The Alameda Animal Shelter, which is operated by the Alameda Police Department, currently employs one Supervising Animal Control Officer, two Animal Control Officers, 2 administrative staff, and several part-time employees. In order for the Police Department to meet its \$1.3 million budget target (or 5% of its budget), staff recommended that the City contract out the Animal Shelter operations and eliminate four vacant Police Officer positions. At the May 31 budget presentation, the City Council directed staff to pursue outsourcing the Shelter as an alternative to eliminating five additional Police Officer positions, for a total of nine Police Officers.

The Humane Society of Alameda (HSA) and the Friends of the Alameda Animal Shelter (FAAS) have expressed strong interest in allowing a non-profit to take over the Shelter, rather than in contracting with another community. In order to allow HSA and FAAS sufficient time to form a new non-profit and develop a plan for operating the Shelter, including identifying sustainable funding sources, the City Manager entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the two groups. The MOU provides that the City, HSA, and FAAS "shall make a good faith effort to develop a mutually agreeable transitional plan that will be ready to implement by November 1, 2011." The City will use its existing donations as well as Police Department operating dollars as bridge funding during this four-month period. If the newly created non-profit is unable to take over the Shelter on November 1, 2011, the MOU provides that the City will outsource the Shelter to a yet-to-be-determined provider.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds are available through donations and the Police Department's operating budget to provide funding for full Shelter operations during this four-month period.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the Memorandum of Understanding among the City of Alameda, the Humane Society of Alameda, and the Friends of the Alameda Animal Shelter regarding the future operation of the Shelter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Goldman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lisa Goldman
Assistant City Manager

Exhibit:

1. Animal Shelter Conversion Memorandum of Understanding

ANIMAL SHELTER CONVERSION
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

June 17, 2011

A. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this memorandum of understanding is to collaboratively develop a fiscally sustainable non-profit organization with the Humane Society of Alameda (hereafter "HSA") and the Friends of the Alameda Animal Shelter (hereafter "FAAS") for the purpose of managing and operating the City of Alameda's Animal Shelter (hereafter the "Shelter") by November 1, 2011. The City of Alameda (hereafter the "City") currently operates a full-service municipal Shelter. The City's intent is to assist in the development, implementation and transfer of the Shelter operation to a newly developed non-profit organization. The objectives of this cooperative agreement are to:

- a. Develop and establish a new non-profit organization to operate the Shelter;
- b. Identify sustainable funding sources for the non-profit Shelter operation;
- c. Establish a timeline for Shelter operation transfer implementation to the non-profit organization;
- d. Define the City's ability to provide a portion of fiscal support to the non-profit organization.

B. Timeline

The City, HSA and FAAS shall make a good faith effort to develop a mutually agreeable transitional plan that will be ready to implement by November 1, 2011. The City agrees to utilize Shelter donations and funds from the police department's operating budget to fund the Shelter operation until November 1, 2011. If the newly created non-profit organization is unable to undertake full operation of the Shelter on November 1, 2011, the parties agree the City will outsource the Shelter operation to a yet-to-be-determined provider designated by the City.

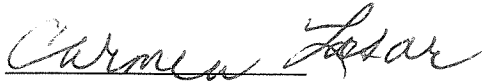
All parties recognize that revisions of these objectives may be necessary. However, to the fullest extent possible, the parties agree that any needed revisions shall be made within the structure of this memorandum of understanding and consistent with a cooperative approach to the development of a solution that transfers the Shelter operation to either a non-profit organization or other provider.

Approved by:



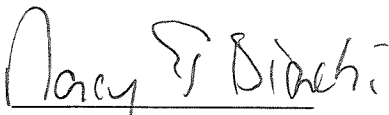
John Russo
City Manager
City of Alameda

Approved by:



Carmen Lasar
President
Humane Society of Alameda

Approved by:



Nancy Evans Bianchi
President
Friends of the Alameda Animal Shelter

CITY OF ALAMEDA RESOLUTION NO. _____

APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE CITY OF ALAMEDA, THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF ALAMEDA, AND THE FRIENDS OF THE ALAMEDA ANIMAL SHELTER REGARDING THE FUTURE OPERATION OF THE SHELTER

WHEREAS, on May 31, 2011, the City Council received a presentation on the City's FY11-12 budget; and

WHEREAS, as part of the budget presentation, City staff recommended contracting out the Alameda Animal Shelter to a neighboring community as a way to save approximately \$735,000; and

WHEREAS, the Humane Society of Alameda (HAS) and the Friends of the Alameda Animal Shelter (FAAS) have expressed strong interest in allowing a non-profit to take over the Shelter; and

WHEREAS, the City's preferred alternative is to allow a non-profit to operate the Alameda Animal Shelter rather than contracting with another community; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department has sufficient bridge funding through donations and operating dollars to allow the HSA and FAAS until November 1, 2011, to form a new non-profit and develop a plan for operating the Shelter, including identifying sustainable funding sources; and

WHEREAS, the City, HSA, and FAAS signed a Memorandum of Understanding on June 17, 2011, that provides that the parties "shall make a good faith effort to develop a mutually agreeable transitional plan that will be ready to implement by November 1, 2011," and

WHEREAS, if the newly created non-profit is unable to take over the Shelter on November 1, 2011, the MOU provides that the City will outsource the Shelter to a yet-to-be-determined provider.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Alameda authorizes the City, HSA, and FAAS to work together to develop and establish a new non-profit organization to undertake full operation of the Shelter on November 1, 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council directs City staff to cease full operation of the Shelter on November 1, 2011, or as soon thereafter as is practicable, and to outsource the Shelter to either the new non-profit organization contemplated in this Resolution, or to a yet-to-be-determined provider designated by the City.

Approved as to Form

City Attorney

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the City Council of the City of Alameda in a regular meeting assembled on the 21st of June, 2011, by the following vote to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSECTIONS:

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the original seal of said City this 22nd day of June, 2011.

Lara Weisiger, City Clerk
City of Alameda